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10. (Amended) A heat transfer element according to claim 1, in which the glass fibres comprises continuous fibres.

13. (Amended) A heat transfer element according to claim 11, in which the glass fibres comprise a continuous tube comprising loosely commingled rovings, wherein the individual rovings extend at an angle of about 10° to about 15° to the tube axis.

15. (Amended) A heat transfer element according to claim 1, wherein an intermediate layer of a plastics material is provided underneath the outer fluoropolymer surface of the element.

17. (Amended) A heat transfer element according to claim 1, wherein the fluoropolymer comprises PVDF.

18. (Amended) A heat transfer element according to claim 1, wherein the fluoropolymer is mixed with another thermoplastic polymer.

19. (Amended) A heat transfer element according to claim 18, wherein the other thermoplastic polymer is an acrylic polymer.

20. (Amended) A process for the production of a heat transfer element according to claim 1 comprising providing a fibrous base portion comprising glass fibres, and forming by compression moulding or lamination over the surface of the base portion a coating comprising a fluoropolymer whereby the glass fibres comprise from about 20% by volume to about 60% by volume of the heat transfer element.

21. (Amended) A process according to claim 20, wherein the fibrous base portion further includes metal fibres.